

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 297312
ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:ADR

APPROVED BY AF/P:RWHOLLIDAY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 297312

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, DECEMBER 13, 1977

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DECEMBER 13 PRESS BRIEFING:

Q: THERE IS A STORY IN THE LATEST EDITION OF PENTHOUSE
MAGAZINE THAT SAYS THAT WEST GERMANY IS TESTING CRUISE
MISSILES AND IRBM'S IN ZAIRE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE
U.S. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT?

A: I DON'T. I AM FINDING THIS OUT FOR THE FIRST TIME.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON IT.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THE TALKS IN RHODESIA, ON
SMITH'S PROPOSED INTERNAL SOLUTION? THE TALKS SEEM TO
BE GOING SMOOTHLY?

A: I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING NEW THAT I CAN OFFER
YOU ON THAT TODAY.

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Q: -- I HAVE INFORMATION. I UNDERSTAND THAT LICENSES
HAVE BEEN DENIED TO CESSNA AIRCRAFT FOR THE EXPORT OF
HALF A DOZEN OR SO AIRCRAFT -- PRIVATE AIRCRAFT -- TO
SOUTH AFRICA. DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS; AND DO YOU KNOW

ANY REASON WHY, GIVEN THE PARLOUS STATE OF THE U.S.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND TRADE DIFICIT, WE WOULD BE
DISCOURAGING THE EXPORT OF CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT TO SOUTH
AFRICA?

A: WELL, I THINK THAT'S OBVIOUSLY THE RESULT OF OUR
DECISION ANNOUNCED A MONTH OR A MONTH AND A HALF AGO IN
THE WAKE OF THE EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA -- THE BANNING OF
BLACK INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATION,NOT TO PERMIT THE
FURTHER EXPORT TO SOUTH AFRICA OF ANY ITEMS OF HARDWARE
LIKE THAT THAT COULD BE USED.

Q: WOULD YOU SAY AN EXECUTIVE JET? ARE YOU AFRAID THAT
AN EXECUTIVE JET WOULD HAVE MILITARY USE?

A: I THINK AN EXECUTIVE JET WAS ONE OF THE ITEMS PRE-
CISELY SPECIFIED IN THE SO-CALLED GREY AREA GROUP OF
ITEMS --

Q: WHAT IS THE GREY AREA?

A: -- OF THINGS THAT WERE NOT OSTENSIBLY DESIGNED FOR
MILITARY OR POLICE USE BUT WHICH COULD BE SO USED.

CLARIFICATION OF CESSNA Q AND A FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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